

FILED
SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA
COUNTY OF KERN

SEP 21 2021

BY [Signature] DEPUTY

SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA
IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF KERN

**IN RE: REOPENING ACCESS TO
COURT PROCEEDINGS DURING THE
COVID-19 PANDEMIC (AMENDED)**

MISCELLANEOUS NO.: STO-21-0010

THE COURT HEREBY FINDS AND ORDERS AS FOLLOWS:

On March 4, 2020, the State of California entered a State of Emergency as a result of the threat of COVID-19. On March 19, 2020, the Governor of California issued an order directing all Californians to shelter in place at their place of residence except as needed to maintain continuity of operations of the federal critical infrastructure sectors to protect public health and ensure the healthcare delivery system is capable of serving all and prioritizing those at the highest risk and vulnerability.

On June 15, 2021, the Governor announced that restrictions that had been in place for the last year were eliminated, including physical distancing, capacity limits, county tier systems, and face masks in most settings for fully vaccinated individuals.

1 See Executive Orders N-07-21 and N-08-21.

2 On July 28, 2021 the California Department of Public Health (CDPH)
3 recommended that individuals wear face masks in indoor public settings, regardless of
4 vaccination status, due to the emergence of the more contagious Delta variant. See
5 CDPH's Guidance for Use of Face Coverings, issued on July 28, 2021.

6 Emergency Local Rule No. 2 has now been amended to require face masks for
7 all individuals, regardless of vaccination status. Individual judicial officers reserve the
8 authority to modify any part of this rule inside their individual courtroom.

9 The public will be admitted to observe all non-confidential proceedings in all
10 Kern County Superior courtrooms. The Court and/or Judicial Officers may impose
11 reasonable restrictions on public access to courtrooms and adjacent hallways in
12 accordance with current and changing standards from the Centers for Disease Control
13 and Prevention (CDC), California Department of Public Health, Division of
14 Occupational Safety and Health (Cal/OSHA), and Governor of the State of California.

15 The Court recognizes that not all members of the public may yet be able or
16 willing to physically attend proceedings in courtroom. Until further notice of this Court,
17 all non-confidential proceedings will still be made available via audio live streaming.
18 Consult the Court's website for live streaming links to the various courtrooms.

19 **A. Availability of Court Calendars**

20 All of the Court's criminal calendars may be viewed at:

21 https://itsapps.kerncounty.com/iframe/nonCMS/crimindex/crim_index_case_info_cal.

22 [asp](#). All of the Court's civil calendars may be viewed at:

23 <https://odyprodportal.kern.courts.ca.gov/portalprod>

24 Electronic daily calendar monitors are also available in the lobbies of the Metro
25 Division and Metro Justice Building for all their courtrooms. Each courtroom in these

1 two buildings also have their own electronic daily calendar monitor located adjacent to
2 the courtroom. With the exception of Metro Traffic Division, Juvenile Justice Center
3 and Taft Multi-Divisional Courthouse, all other courthouses also have electronic daily
4 calendar monitors in their lobbies.

5 **B. Audio Live Streaming**

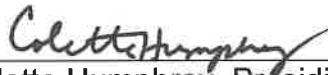
6 Audio live streaming may not be recorded, broadcast or re-broadcast by
7 anyone without prior written judicial authorization consistent with California Rules of
8 Court, rule 1.150, and Kern County Superior Court Standing Order 19-0005.

9 Each judge retains the discretion and authority to refuse, limit or terminate
10 audio live streaming, for portions of proceedings, pursuant to the factors and
11 prohibitions articulated in California Rules of Court, rule 1.150 and in consideration of
12 other statutory and constitutional provisions.

13 This order supersedes the Court's prior standing order, *Reopening Access to*
14 *Court Proceedings During the COVID-19 Pandemic*, Misc. No. STO-21-0008, issued
15 on June 25, 2021.

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17 THIS ORDER IS EFFECTIVE SEPTEMBER 21, 2021 AND MAY BE
18 AMENDED AS CIRCUMSTANCES REQUIRE.

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20 Dated: September 21, 2021.

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22 
23 Colette Humphrey, Presiding Judge
24 Kern County Superior Court
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